



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 26, 2004

Ray Stephanson
Mayor

The Honorable Bill Baarsma, Mayor
City of Tacoma
747 Market St., Suite 1200
Tacoma, WA 98402-3766

Dear Mayor Baarsma:

Thank you for your recent cooperation to help make the cleanup effort of the Everett Asarco site a reality. This partnership will allow for affordable cleanup of the Everett site as it accelerates the cleanup in Ruston and Tacoma.

Like your community, the City of Everett has been working closely with Asarco as well as other local, state and federal agencies to transition this contaminated area into a useable and productive site in our community.

The cleanup challenge would likely be insurmountable without this regional cooperation. To be successful in the remediation of major contaminated areas, it's important that we acknowledge the spirit of regional cooperation and commitment we have seen at both the municipal level and the regulatory level along with the businesses involved. What our communities are doing here will benefit the environment for the good of our children and grandchildren.

Combining the cleanup of these two projects has benefits for both our communities. We are pleased that as a result of this partnership, more funding has become available this year for the Ruston cleanup and the cleanup will be able to proceed more quickly.

We recognize the leadership you and your staff have brought to this process. Again, thank you for your cooperation and partnership.

Sincerely,


Ray Stephanson
Mayor

✓ c: Kevin Rochlin, Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

